

Amendments to the Claims:

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A shading decorative sheet comprising:
a transparent base layer having a back face and a front face opposing to the back face, which comprises a thermoplastic resin film,
a decorative layer provided on said front face of the base layer, which has a gradation pattern at least in one direction, and
an adhesive layer fixedly provided on said back face of the base layer,
~~wherein said gradation pattern comprises an opaque region having a haze of at least 30% when measured according to ASTM D 1003-00 and a transparent region, and a ratio of the areas of the two regions is changed at least in one direction;~~
wherein said gradation pattern comprises an opaque region, an opaque region having a plurality of discrete transparent regions adjacent to the opaque region, a transparent region having a plurality of discrete opaque regions adjacent to the opaque region having a plurality of discrete transparent regions, and a transparent region adjacent to the transparent region having a plurality of discrete opaque regions, wherein the opaque region has a haze of at least 30% when measured according to ASTM D 1003-00.
2. (currently amended) The shading decorative sheet according to claim 1, wherein
~~said gradation pattern comprises a part consisting of the opaque region, a part consisting of the opaque region having a plurality of discrete transparent regions, a part consisting of the transparent region having a plurality of discrete opaque regions, and a part consisting of the transparent region;~~
the size of the discrete transparent regions in the opaque region having a plurality of discrete transparent regions, increases in the direction away from the opaque region.

3. (currently amended) The shading decorative sheet according to claim 1, wherein said gradation pattern comprises a part consisting of the opaque region, a part consisting of the opaque region having a plurality of discrete transparent regions, and a part consisting of the transparent region.
the size of the discrete opaque regions in the transparent region having a plurality of discrete opaque regions, decreases in the direction toward the transparent region.

4. (cancelled) The shading decorative sheet according to claim 1, wherein said gradation pattern comprises a part consisting of the opaque region, a part consisting of the transparent region having a plurality of discrete opaque regions, and a part consisting of the transparent region.

5. (cancelled) The shading decorative sheet according to claim 1, wherein said gradation pattern comprises a part consisting of the opaque region, a part consisting of the opaque region having a plurality of discrete transparent regions, and a part consisting of the transparent region having a plurality of discrete opaque regions.

6. (cancelled) The shading decorative sheet according to claim 1, wherein said gradation pattern comprises a part consisting of the opaque region having a plurality of discrete transparent regions, a part consisting of the transparent region having a plurality of discrete opaque regions, and a part consisting of the transparent region.

7. (cancelled) The shading decorative sheet according to claim 1, wherein said gradation pattern comprises a part consisting of the opaque region having a plurality of discrete transparent regions, and a part consisting of the transparent region having a plurality of discrete opaque regions.

8. (cancelled) The shading decorative sheet according to claim 1, wherein a boundary between a recognizable part and a non-recognizable part is determined by a shielding area S (%) which is defined by the following formula (1):

$$S(\%) = [S_1(\text{cm}^2)/100(\text{cm}^2)] \times 100 \quad (1)$$

wherein S_1 is a total area (cm^2) of the opaque region(s) in an area of 10 cm x 10 cm.

9. (new) A shading decorative sheet comprising:

a transparent base layer having a back face and a front face opposing to the back face, which comprises a thermoplastic resin film,

a decorative layer provided on said front face of the base layer, which has a gradation pattern at least in one direction, and

an adhesive layer fixedly provided on said back face of the base layer, wherein said gradation pattern comprises an opaque region, an opaque region having a plurality of discrete transparent regions, and a transparent region, wherein the opaque region has a haze of at least 30% when measured according to ASTM D 1003-00.

10. (new) The shading decorative sheet according to claim 9, wherein in the opaque region having a plurality of discrete transparent regions the size of the opaque regions decreases in the direction toward the transparent region.

11. (new) A shading decorative sheet comprising:

a transparent base layer having a back face and a front face opposing to the back face, which comprises a thermoplastic resin film,

a decorative layer provided on said front face of the base layer, which has a gradation pattern at least in one direction, and

an adhesive layer fixedly provided on said back face of the base layer, wherein said gradation pattern comprises an opaque region, a transparent region having a plurality of discrete opaque regions, and a transparent region, wherein the opaque region has a haze of at least 30% when measured according to ASTM D 1003-00.

12. (new) The shading decorative sheet according to claim 11, wherein in the transparent region having a plurality of discrete opaque regions the size of the discrete opaque regions decreases in the direction toward the transparent region.